

REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 1-18 are pending. In the office action, all pending claims are rejected.

At section 2 of the office action, claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Grilli et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,438,117, hereafter referred to as *Grilli*), in view of *Willars* (U.S. Patent No. 6,597,679).

The Examiner uses Figure 8 of *Grilli* to show that there are overlapping areas between GSM cells and CDMA cells. The Examiner also considers the CDMA frequencies of neighboring cells as being equivalent to the first list of the first sub-network, and the list of frequencies of the neighboring GSM cells as being equivalent to the second list of second sub-network. The Examiner admits that *Grilli* fails to disclose handover between WCDMA and GSM systems, but points to *Willars* for disclosing such handover. In particular, the Examiner states that *Willars* discloses inter-operator handoff between WCDMA and GSM systems (figure 2; column 6, lines 4-24).

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 10 to include the limitation that the second list includes only one or more of the second radio coverage areas of the second sub-network and the third radio coverage areas of the third sub-network of the second operator, so as to allow the mobile terminal to access the second radio coverage areas of the second operator while preventing the mobile terminal from accessing the third radio coverage areas of the second operator. The support for the amendment can be found on lines 7-16, page 7, of the specification. No new matter has been introduced.

It is respectfully submitted that, at column 6, lines 4-24, *Willars* discloses a mobile station 23 having a dual receiver mode, including a GSM sub-receiver 25 to receive communications in a GSM network 26, and a WCDMA sub-receiver system 24 to receive communications in a WCDMA network 27. As such, the mobile station is able to receive communications when it roams outside of a cellular service area into a new cellular service area. In particular, at column 6, lines 56-62, *Willars* discloses that the mobile station communicating from time to time with a base station in CDMA or WCDMA mode receives a continuous CDMA transmission from the base station at a particular frequency (f1, Figure 4). The mobile station may need to take measurements on other frequencies to determine whether a handover (soft, softer or hard) may be appropriate. More

specifically, if the mobile station has a dual receiver mode, it can take the measurements at frequency f_2 from the base station with its second receiver component (column 7, lines 10-13; figure 4).

However, if the mobile station does not have dual receiver mode capacity, the measurements are taken using compressed mode techniques in preparation for inter-frequency transfer (Abstract; column 7, lines 14-22). *Willars* discloses a method for taking measurements on one frequency (f_2) while the mobile phone receives continuous CDMA transmission on another frequency (f_1). Such measurements are taken for inter-frequency transfer between f_1 and f_2 . *Willars* does not disclose or even suggest inter-operator handover. Neither *Gilli* nor *Willars* discloses using the second list for allowing the mobile terminal to access the second coverage areas while preventing the mobile terminal from accessing the third coverage areas.

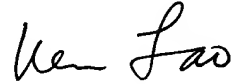
For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 10 are clearly distinguishable over the cited *Grilli* and *Willars* references.

As for claims 2-9 and 11-18, they are dependent from claims 1 and 10 and recite features not recited in claims 1 and 10. For reasons regarding claims 1 and 10 above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-9 and 11-18 are also distinguishable over the cited *Grilli* and *Willars* references.

CONCLUSION

As amended, claims 1-18 are allowable. Early allowance of all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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